

BENJAMIN F. JONES.

APRIL 2, 1896.—Committed to the Committee of the Whole House and ordered to be printed.

Mr. DENNY, from the Committee on Claims, submitted the following

REPORT:

[To accompany H. R. 7161.]

The Committee on Claims, to whom was referred the bill (H. R. 7161) for the relief of Benjamin F. Jones, of Beauregard, Miss., having duly considered same, beg to submit the following report, with the recommendation that the bill do pass.

On April 22, 1883, when claimant was postmaster at Beauregard, Miss., said town was totally destroyed by a cyclone, and every building in the town was swept away, including the building in which the post-office was kept. In consequence of this disaster, and from the date thereof up to and including the 27th day of May, 1883, the mails for said town were deposited at Wesson, Miss., one mile distant from Beauregard. Whereupon it became necessary that said mails should be transported to Beauregard, and this claimant caused to be done at the expense to him of \$97.

The Post-Office Department refused to reimburse him for such expenditure, because there existed no statute permitting such allowance, at the same time recognizing the service and the necessity therefor.

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